

Formal Council Questions and Responses

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1 Question to the Cabinet Member for Streetscene 2019/8 - Rubbish and litter in Coldbath Road

Councillor Joan Watkins asked:

I start by giving background information as to why I ask this question.

Coldbath Rd is the road by which students and others access Caerleon Comprehensive School, the school accommodates some 1600 students. Unfortunately the Canteen facility can only accommodate at lunchtime some 600 students resulting in a very large number of youngsters going into the village to access food during the lunch break.

The school works hard to educate students with regard to the need for proper litter disposal, but both staff and students are not assisted in this by the Authority providing insufficient capacity litter bins on this road. Currently there is one standard size bin together with two very small bins attached to lampposts one of which falls to the ground on a regular basis provided on this road. This is simply not sufficient to accommodate the amount of rubbish engendered by the children having to leave the school premises to access food.

Local residents and the environment are therefore severely compromised by overflowing bins and litter.

Working with the school where I am a Governor I contacted StreetScene before last Christmas and asked for larger capacity bins to be provided as a matter of urgency despite repeated requests I have been met with a blank refusal!!

Given the Authority is preparing to replace all household Waste bins across the city to provide smaller capacity bins at a cost of over a million pounds {having conducted a similar exercise only a relatively short time ago} I am astounded that one of the reasons given to me in denying this request was cost.

My question is therefore does the Cabinet Member support this refusal to provide adequate capacity bins on this site or will he give consideration to the school, students local residents and the environment and agree to the urgent provision of bins with better capacity which are needed to support the amount of litter currently causing real problems especially given there would be a minimal cost involved.

Councillor Roger Jeavons responded:

The request was received by City Services officers on December 2018 and it was given proper consideration before being refused. The reasons for the refusal are the following:

- Litter bin provision in the school area is similar to that of other similar sized schools in Newport.

- Street cleaning performance is monitored and measured against the quality standards set out in the Welsh Assembly's Code of Practice (CoPLaR) on a bi-monthly basis; over the last 2 years, there has not been a single fail in this area.
- There have been no complaints about litter or littering issues in this area.

NCC receives numerous requests for additional litter bins and has a finite resource. As such we must prioritise requests to replacement of damaged bins, new developments and areas that demonstrate a significant additional need.